TRENDS

ASSOCIATION OF AMERICAN RAILROADS

Office of Information
and Public Affairs
50 F Street, N.W., Washington, DC 20001
(202) 639-2555

AAR 575-2

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

WASHINGTON, February 22, 1990 -- Carloadings originated on major U.S. railroads during the week ended February 17 totaled 340,050, up 0.5 percent from the comparable week of 1989 but 0.5 percent below the preceding week of 1990, the Association of American Railroads (AAR) reported today. The railroads reporting account for approximately 94 percent of all rail carloads.

Carloadings originated were up 3.9 percent in the West but down 2.2 percent in the East, compared with a year ago.

From the comparable 1989 week, coal loadings were up 6,067 cars (4.9 percent), while loadings of metallic ores rose by 2,837 cars (22.6 percent). Loadings of motor vehicles and equipment fell by 4,480 cars (20.3 percent).

Cumulative carloadings for the first seven weeks of 1990 totaled 2,315,412, up 0.8 percent from the comparable period a year ago.

Intermodal traffic on Class I railroads -- which is not included in the carloadings -- totaled 124,116 trailers and/or containers for the week ended February 17, up 5.0 percent from the comparable week of 1989.

The cumulative volume of TOFC/COFC traffic for the first seven weeks of 1990 was 802,028 trailers and/or containers, 4.4 percent above the comparable 1989 total.

The AAR also estimated that ton-miles carried on major railroads in the week ended February 17 totaled 19.7 billion, 0.5 percent above the comparable week of 1989. Cumulative volume for the first seven weeks of 1990 was an estimated 134.3 billion ton-miles, up 1.3 percent from the comparable period of last year.

(more)

WEEKLY TRAFFIC OF MAJOR RAILROADS
FOR THE WEEK ENDING FEBRUARY 17, 1990

CARLOADS ORIGINATED, BY COMMODITY GROUP					
		COMPARISON WITH			
COMMODITY	WEEK ENDING FEBRUARY 17, 1990	SAME WEEK OF 1989	CHANGE	PRECEDING WEEK	CHANGE
Grain	32,480	32,776	-.9 %	33,148	-2.0 %
Farm Products, Ex. Grain	1,698	1,634	3.9	1,598	6.3
Metallic Ores	15,376	12,539	22.6	15,360	.1
Coal	130,429	124,362	4.9	134,003	-2.7
Crushed Stone, Sand & Gravel	12,468	12,048	3.7	12,782	-2.3
Nonmetallic Minerals	9,569	9,567	.0	8,646	10.7
Grain Mill Products	10,734	10,312	4.1	10,427	2.9
Food & Kindred Products	9,123	9,327	-2.2	8,952	1.9
Primary Forest Products	10,245	10,755	-4.7	10,286	-.4
Lumber & Wood Products	6,481	7,055	-8.1	6,374	1.7
Pulp, Paper & Allied Products	11,055	11,231	-1.6	10,348	6.8
Chemicals	28,958	28,445	1.8	27,765	4.3
Petroleum Products	4,777	5,054	-5.5	4,890	-2.3
Stone, Clay & Glass Products	9,503	9,639	-1.4	9,628	-1.3
Coke	5,283	5,398	-2.1	5,555	-4.9
Metals & Products	9,642	9,551	1.0	9,385	2.7
Motor Vehicles & Equipment	17,633	22,113	-20.3	16,960	4.0
Waste & Scrap Materials	8,617	9,678	-11.0	8,712	-1.1
All Other Carloads	5,959	7,034	-15.3	6,954	-14.3
Total	**340,050**	**338,518**	**.5 %**	**341,773**	**-.5 %**

SUMMARY: CARLOADS ORIGINATED, INTERMODAL TRAFFIC AND ESTIMATED TON-MILES						
	WEEK ENDING FEBRUARY 17, 1990			CUMULATIVE: 7 WEEKS ENDING FEBRUARY 17, 1990		
TRAFFIC	1990	1989	CHANGE	1990	1989	CHANGE
Carloads Originated	**340,050**	**338,518**	**.5 %**	**2,315,412**	**2,296,725**	**.8 %**
Intermodal Traffic Originated						
Trailers	65,929	66,837	-1.4	445,160	441,517	.8
Containers	58,187	51,413	13.2	356,868	326,559	9.3
Total	**124,116**	**118,250**	**5.0**	**802,028**	**768,076**	**4.4**
Estimated Ton-Miles						
Class I Railroads (Billions)	**19.7**	**19.6**	**.5 %**	**134.3 r**	**132.6**	**1.3 %**

r Cumulative 1990 ton-miles revised to reflect corrections to carloadings for Weeks 1 and 6, 1990.